



LOUISIANA LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

53320-2
10/13/88



BATON ROUGE
P.O. Box 94094

LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Phyllis C. Mouton, Secretary
AUGUST, 1988

RELEASE DATE:
September 26, 1988

LOUISIANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

	PRELIMINARY AUGUST 1988				REVISED JULY 1988				REVISED AUGUST 1987			
(in thousands)	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
LOUISIANA	1,918.8	1,726.8	192.0	10.0	1,938.5	1,738.5	200.0	10.3	1,941.0	1,722.9	218.1	11.2
LABOR MARKET AREAS:												
Alexandria 1/	60.9	55.1	5.8	9.5	61.3	55.3	6.0	9.9	61.2	55.4	5.8	9.4
Baton Rouge 2/	262.9	239.0	23.9	9.1	264.2	239.4	24.8	9.4	262.0	236.6	25.4	9.7
Houma - Thibodaux 3/	68.5	62.0	6.5	9.5	69.8	62.8	7.0	10.1	71.3	61.4	9.9	13.9
Lafayette 4/	97.5	88.8	8.7	9.0	99.1	90.2	8.9	9.0	99.4	87.9	11.5	11.6
Lake Charles 5/	75.5	67.4	8.1	10.7	76.6	68.3	8.3	10.8	75.9	66.4	9.5	12.5
Monroe 6/	67.4	60.9	6.5	9.6	68.9	61.8	7.1	10.3	69.3	62.7	6.6	9.5
New Orleans 7/	602.5	549.6	52.9	8.8	605.0	550.3	54.7	9.0	604.2	545.4	58.8	9.7
Shreveport 8/	164.6	148.8	15.8	9.6	166.0	149.7	16.3	9.8	165.1	148.5	16.6	10.1

Parishes included in above Labor Market Areas are listed at the end of the Employment and Payroll Trends narrative.

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in Louisiana was estimated at 1,496,000 for August, an increase of 500 above the revised level for July and 18,100 above the August year-ago figure. Much of the increase was centered in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing. The increase in nonmanufacturing payrolls for the current month was centered in the construction and services sectors.

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Estimated employment in the durable goods segment of manufacturing, at 74,400 was 100 lower than July's figure but 4,200 above the year-ago figure. A decrease in business for ship and boat building and repairing firms was responsible for the loss in transportation equipment employment.

Employment in the nondurable goods segment of manufacturing was estimated at 94,500 for August, an increase of 500 above the July level. The reopening of a firm in the miscellaneous apparel and accessories industry accounted for most of the increase in employment for the apparel and other textiles products segment. The reopening of a plant in the leather and leather products industry, after a temporary shutdown, was mainly responsible for the increase of other nondurable goods employment.

Employment in nonmanufacturing industries during August was estimated at 1,327,100, up by 100 from the July figure. Mining employment dropped by 400 workers. An upturn in construction payrolls occurred largely in the heavy construction contractors segment. Transportation and public utilities experienced an increase in employment due in part to an increase in business for the state's ports. Trade payrolls were up in August largely as a result of increased business in department stores and in eating and drinking establishments. Employment drops at banks were significant in the downturn of finance, insurance and real estate employment. Seasonal employee additions in educational services primarily accounted for the increase in total services employment. Estimated government employment in August was down due mostly to a decrease in local government, except education, payrolls.

Average weekly earnings of Louisiana's 123,800 production workers in manufacturing decreased from \$469.79 in July to \$469.76 in August, a loss of three cents but an increase of \$19.33 from the comparable period a year ago. Average hourly earnings were \$0.13 lower in August than last month but seven cents higher than the year-ago figure. Weekly hours averaged 42.9 for the current month, up 0.5 hours from the July revised level of 42.4 hours.

Total unemployment for Louisiana during August amounted to 192,000, a decrease of 8,000 below the July revised level of 200,000. The unemployment rate for August was 10.0 percent, compared to 10.3 percent for July and 11.2 percent for August 1987. The comparable national unemployment rate for August was 5.4 percent, compared to 5.5 percent in July and 5.8 percent in August a year ago. Louisiana's civilian labor force moved from 1,938,500 in July to 1,918,800 in August, a decrease of 19,700. Total employment decreased from 1,738,500 in July to 1,726,800 in August, a decrease of 11,700 workers.

Louisiana's unemployment rate is expected to continue its decline during the next month as students leave the labor force to return to school. Nonagricultural wage and salary employment is expected to increase next month.

1/ Rapides Parish only. 2/ Includes Ascension, East Baton Rouge, Livingston, and West Baton Rouge parishes. 3/ Includes Lafourche and Terrebonne parishes. 4/ Includes Lafayette and St. Martin parishes. 5/ Calcasieu Parish only. 6/ Ouachita Parish only. 7/ Includes Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, St. Charles and St. John the Baptist parishes. 8/ Includes Bossier and Caddo parishes.

LOUISIANA
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	Net Change from				
	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	1,496.0	1,495.5	1,477.9	+ 0.5	+18.1
MINING	54.7	55.1	55.3	- 0.4	- 0.6
Oil and Gas Extraction	52.0	52.4	52.6	- 0.4	- 0.6
Nonmetallic Minerals	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	84.8	83.7	81.7	+ 1.1	+ 3.1
MANUFACTURING	168.9	168.5	164.0	+ 0.4	+ 4.9
Durable Goods	74.4	74.5	70.2	- 0.1	+ 4.2
Lumber and Wood Products	12.2	12.2	12.3	0	- 0.1
Furniture and Fixtures	0.5	0.6	0.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	5.5	5.5	5.4	0	+ 0.1
Primary Metal Industries	3.0	3.0	2.9	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	11.8	11.7	10.7	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Machinery, Except Electrical	9.3	9.2	8.1	+ 0.1	+ 1.2
Electrical & Electronic Equipment	6.9	6.8	7.3	+ 0.1	- 0.4
Transportation Equipment	22.7	23.0	20.4	- 0.3	+ 2.3
Other Durable Goods (1)	2.5	2.5	2.3	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	94.5	94.0	93.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.7
Food & Kindred Products	19.4	19.5	20.4	- 0.1	- 1.0
Apparel & Other Textile Products	9.4	9.2	8.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.6
Paper & Allied Products	12.2	12.2	11.9	0	+ 0.3
Printing & Publishing	10.3	10.3	10.1	0	+ 0.2
Chemicals & Allied Products	25.9	25.8	25.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.5
Petroleum and Coal Products	12.4	12.3	12.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Petroleum Refining	11.5	11.4	11.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods (2)	4.9	4.7	4.9	+ 0.2	0
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	105.5	104.9	104.5	+ 0.6	+ 1.0
Railroad Transportation	5.2	5.2	5.3	0	- 0.1
Transportation, ex. Railroads	59.8	59.1	58.6	+ 0.7	+ 1.2
Water Transportation	23.5	22.7	22.4	+ 0.8	+ 1.1
Communication & Electric, Gas & Sanitary Ser.	40.5	40.6	40.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
Communication, Exc. U S Postal Service	18.1	18.1	18.4	0	- 0.3
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	22.4	22.5	22.2	- 0.1	+ 0.2
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	364.8	364.1	364.9	+ 0.7	- 0.1
Wholesale Trade	83.6	83.5	82.5	+ 0.1	+ 1.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	46.2	46.2	45.1	0	+ 1.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	37.4	37.3	37.4	+ 0.1	0
Retail Trade	281.2	280.6	282.4	+ 0.6	- 1.2
Gen. Merchandise, Apparel & Acc.	58.0	57.5	58.1	+ 0.5	- 0.1
Food Stores	56.0	56.0	56.9	0	- 0.9
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	31.1	31.1	31.0	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	85.6	85.3	85.9	+ 0.3	- 0.3
Other Retail Trade	50.5	50.7	50.5	- 0.2	0

LOUISIANA - CONTINUED
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change from	
				July 1988	August 1987
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	84.2	84.4	85.2	- 0.2	- 1.0
Banking	24.5	24.7	25.3	- 0.2	- 0.8
SERVICES	330.1	329.0	319.8	+ 1.1	+10.3
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	22.8	22.4	20.7	+ 0.4	+ 2.1
Personal Services	14.7	14.6	13.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
Business Services	59.0	59.0	58.4	0	+ 0.6
Auto Repair, Services & Garages	9.6	9.6	10.0	0	- 0.4
Miscellaneous Repair Services	5.4	5.4	5.4	0	0
Amusement & Recreation Services	10.1	10.1	10.4	0	- 0.3
Health Services	104.0	104.1	101.9	- 0.1	+ 2.1
Legal Services	15.9	15.9	15.6	0	+ 0.3
Educational Services	23.7	22.7	18.3	+ 1.0	+ 5.4
Social Services	18.1	18.2	17.6	- 0.1	+ 0.5
Membership Organizations	25.6	25.7	26.6	- 0.1	- 1.0
Miscellaneous Services	14.8	14.9	14.7	- 0.1	+ 0.1
GOVERNMENT	303.0	305.8	302.5	- 2.8	+ 0.5
Federal	36.3	36.2	36.8	+ 0.1	- 0.5
State and Local	266.7	269.6	265.7	- 2.9	+ 1.0
State	88.0	88.2	89.3	- 0.2	- 1.3
Local	178.7	181.4	176.4	- 2.7	+ 2.3

* Preliminary

**Revised

- (1) Includes Professional equipment and misc. manufacturing industries
(2) Includes Leather, Rubber and Textile products.

All estimates of Nonagricultural wage and salaried workers in this publication are prepared in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, with the exception of the Lake Charles LMA which is prepared under the auspices of the Louisiana Department of Labor, and include all full time and part time workers who were employed during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING AND SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN LOUISIANA

	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	August '88*	July '88**	August '88*	July '88**	August '88*	July '88**
ALL MANUFACTURING (1)						
Durable Goods	\$469.76	\$469.79	42.9	42.4	\$10.95	\$11.08
Lumber & Wood Products	433.00	417.08	43.3	42.3	10.00	9.86
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	351.48	352.84	42.5	43.4	8.27	8.13
Fabricated Metal Products	355.11	376.82	39.5	41.5	8.99	9.08
Machinery, ex. Electrical	442.98	437.68	46.0	43.9	9.63	9.97
Electric & Electronic Equip.	402.12	397.20	43.9	43.6	9.16	9.11
Transportation Equipment	593.18	576.81	44.4	43.5	13.36	13.26
	468.04	426.22	42.9	40.4	10.91	10.55
Nondurable Goods						
Food & Kindred Products	503.01	515.53	42.7	42.5	11.78	12.13
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	316.57	311.26	40.9	39.4	7.74	7.90
Paper & Allied Products	203.86	189.75	37.2	34.5	5.48	5.50
Printing & Publishing	575.92	576.63	43.4	43.0	13.27	13.41
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	404.17	393.00	38.9	38.0	10.39	10.61
Petroleum & Coal Products	707.44	725.50	45.7	45.6	15.48	15.91
Petroleum Refining	720.04	754.94	47.0	48.8	15.32	15.47
	733.82	768.97	47.1	48.7	15.58	15.79
MINING						
COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	523.53	530.27	44.9	45.4	11.66	11.68
BANKING	517.45	525.82	40.3	40.2	12.84	13.08
	273.06	267.75	37.0	37.5	7.38	7.14

(1) Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 123,800 full and part-time workers in manufacturing and 89,100 nonsupervisory employees in communications, public utilities, mining and banking. The averages are computed on a "Gross" basis and reflect over-time, late shift work and incentive rates.

LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SITUATION BY LABOR MARKET AREA

PRELIMINARY 08 88

REVISED 07 88

	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE	LABOR FORCE	EMPL.	UNEMP	RATE
CROWLEY (ACADIA)	22,475	19,525	2,950	13.2	22,800	19,850	2,950	13.0
OAKDALE (ALLEN)	9,700	8,575	1,125	11.6	9,825	8,675	1,150	11.7
NAPOLEONVILLE (ASSUMPTION)	5,925	4,950	975	16.4	6,150	5,100	1,050	17.1
BUNKIE (AVOYELLES)	15,775	13,200	2,575	16.3	15,650	12,975	2,675	17.1
DERIDDER (BEAUREGARD)	14,800	13,350	1,450	9.9	14,600	13,175	1,425	9.7
ARCADIA (BIENVILLE)	6,525	5,800	725	11.0	6,600	5,850	750	11.4
COLUMBIA (CALDWELL)	4,200	3,675	525	12.7	4,300	3,750	550	12.9
CAMERON (CAMERON)	4,675	4,300	375	7.9	4,775	4,375	400	8.2
JONESVILLE (CATAHOULA)	4,075	3,375	700	16.9	4,300	3,525	775	17.9
HOMER (CLAIBORNE)	8,050	7,350	700	8.6	8,075	7,350	725	9.0
FERRIDAY (CONCORDIA)	9,900	8,600	1,300	13.0	10,275	8,825	1,450	14.0
MANSFIELD (DESOTO)	13,175	11,700	1,475	11.1	13,225	11,700	1,525	11.6
LAKE PROVIDENCE (E. CARROLL)	4,125	3,375	750	18.1	4,400	3,575	825	18.6
CLINTON (EAST FELICIANA)	8,800	7,950	850	9.7	8,850	7,975	875	9.8
VILLE PLATTE (EVANGELINE)	12,650	11,075	1,575	12.5	12,775	11,125	1,650	12.9
WINNSBORO (FRANKLIN)	8,100	7,000	1,100	13.5	8,475	7,250	1,225	14.3
COLFAX (GRANT)	6,800	5,950	850	12.4	6,875	6,075	800	11.7
NEW IBERIA (IBERIA)	24,200	21,325	2,875	11.9	24,350	21,325	3,025	12.4
PLAQUEMINE (IBERVILLE)	11,475	9,700	1,775	15.5	11,575	9,750	1,825	15.8
JONESBORO (JACKSON)	7,225	6,675	550	7.7	7,425	6,775	650	8.6
JENNINGS (JEFFERSON DAVIS)	11,975	10,375	1,600	13.4	12,400	10,700	1,700	13.8
JENA (LASALLE)	6,475	5,800	675	10.2	6,550	5,850	700	10.5
RUSTON (LINCOLN)	16,725	15,825	900	5.4	17,025	16,100	925	5.4
TALLULAH (MADISON)	5,700	4,875	825	14.5	5,850	5,000	850	14.4
BASTROP (MOREHOUSE)	12,325	10,650	1,675	13.5	12,850	11,075	1,775	13.8
NATCHITOCHES (NATCHITOCHES)	16,075	14,475	1,600	9.9	16,550	14,825	1,725	10.4
POINT-A-LA-HACHE (PLAQUEM.)	9,050	8,150	900	9.9	8,975	8,025	950	10.6
NEW ROADS (POINTE COUPEE)	7,325	5,900	1,425	19.3	7,575	6,075	1,500	19.8
COUSHATTA (RED RIVER)	4,075	3,650	425	10.3	4,400	3,750	650	15.0
RAYVILLE (RICHLAND)	9,000	7,775	1,225	13.6	9,300	8,050	1,250	13.4
MANY (SABINE)	10,150	9,300	850	8.4	10,300	9,425	875	8.5
GREENSBURG (ST. HELENA)	2,725	2,375	350	12.9	2,825	2,450	375	13.5
LUTCHER (ST. JAMES)	8,100	6,850	1,250	15.4	8,350	7,025	1,325	15.8
OPELOUSAS (ST. LANDRY)	33,175	27,850	5,325	16.1	33,875	28,150	5,725	16.9
MORGAN CITY (ST. MARY)	23,300	20,350	2,950	12.7	23,400	20,275	3,125	13.4
HAMMOND (TANGIPAHOA)	38,450	33,325	5,125	13.3	39,000	33,475	5,525	14.2
ST. JOSEPH (TENSAS)	3,025	2,750	275	9.2	3,175	2,850	325	9.9
FARMERVILLE (UNION)	8,500	7,575	925	10.8	8,375	7,450	925	11.1
ABBEVILLE (VERMILION)	19,375	17,000	2,375	12.2	19,775	17,225	2,550	12.9
LEESVILLE (VERNON)	19,150	17,575	1,575	8.2	19,425	17,950	1,475	7.6
BOGALUSA (WASHINGTON)	18,125	16,100	2,025	11.1	18,375	16,325	2,050	11.2
MINDEN (WEBSTER)	19,375	16,950	2,425	12.5	19,550	17,050	2,500	12.8
OAK GROVE (WEST CARROLL)	4,500	3,500	1,000	22.4	4,650	3,725	925	20.0
ST. FRANCISVILLE (W. FELIC.)	4,100	3,675	425	10.1	4,100	3,725	375	9.1
WINNFIELD (WINN)	5,575	5,100	475	8.4	5,650	5,150	500	8.7

NOTE: LABOR MARKET AREAS ARE DESIGNATED BY NAME OF PRINCIPAL TOWN, BUT INCLUDE ALL OF PARISH IN PARENTHESIS.

ABOVE DATA ROUNDED TO NEAREST 25 EXCEPT LMAS AND STATEWIDE WHICH ARE ROUNDED TO NEAREST 100. SUBTOTALS MAY NOT ADD TO TOTALS DUE TO ROUNDING. RATES COMPUTED FROM UNROUNDED DATA.

ALEXANDRIA AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change From	
				July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	45.5	45.5	45.7	0	- 0.2
MANUFACTURING	3.4	3.5	3.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	- 0.1
Lumber & Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.4	1.5	1.4	- 0.1	0
Food & Kindred Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	0.9	1.0	0.9	- 0.1	0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.5	2.5	2.5	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11.2	11.2	11.1	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	1.2	1.2	1.2	0	0
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	1.0	1.0	0.9	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	9.0	9.0	9.0	0	0
General Merchandise	2.1	2.1	2.0	0	+ 0.1
Auto Dirs. & Svc. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.0	0	0
Eating & Drinking Places	2.4	2.4	2.4	0	0
Other Retail Trade	3.5	3.5	3.6	0	- 0.1
FINANCE, INS., & REAL ESTATE	2.6	2.6	2.7	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	11.4	11.4	11.2	0	+ 0.2
Health Services	5.1	5.1	4.9	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	12.0	11.9	12.3	+ 0.1	- 0.3
Federal	2.7	2.7	2.7	0	0
State and Local	9.3	9.2	9.6	+ 0.1	- 0.3
State	4.6	4.6	4.8	0	- 0.2
Local	4.7	4.6	4.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Alexandria labor market area was estimated at 45,500 during the month of August. This estimate was the same as last month and 200 less than August of last year.

Employment in manufacturing was estimated at 3,400 during August. This estimate was 100 less than the previous month, and the decline was in other nondurable goods. Since August of last year, employment in manufacturing has declined by 100, and the reduction occurred in other durable goods.

Employment in nonmanufacturing was estimated at 42,100 during August. This estimate is 100 more than July, and the increase occurred in local government. Compared to last August, nonmanufacturing has declined by 100 employees. Employment reductions in government partially offset employment gains in trade and services.

During the next thirty days, total nonagricultural employment should increase with the unemployment rate showing a decline. This would be attributed to noninstructional school personnel, and summer job seekers returning to school for the fall semester.

BATON ROUGE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change From	
				July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	211.2	210.9	209.6	+ 0.3	+ 1.6
MANUFACTURING	18.7	18.8	18.4	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Durable Goods	4.0	4.0	3.9	0	+ 0.1
Lumber and Wood Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Fabricated Metal Products	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	14.7	14.8	14.5	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Food & Kindred Products	1.8	1.8	1.7	0	+ 0.1
Printing & Publishing	1.4	1.4	1.4	0	0
Chemicals and Petroleum Products	10.2	10.3	10.2	- 0.1	0
Other Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	21.8	21.5	19.3	+ 0.3	+ 2.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	10.5	10.4	10.2	+ 0.1	+ 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	51.8	51.8	51.3	0	+ 0.5
Wholesale Trade	11.6	11.6	11.2	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	7.8	7.8	7.6	0	+ 0.2
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	3.8	3.8	3.6	0	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	40.2	40.2	40.1	0	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	13.5	13.4	13.7	+ 0.1	- 0.2
Banking	3.3	3.3	3.7	0	- 0.4
SERVICES	43.9	44.0	43.5	- 0.1	+ 0.4
GOVERNMENT	50.2	50.2	52.4	0	- 2.2
Federal	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
State and Local	48.0	48.0	50.2	0	- 2.2
State	25.2	25.2	27.3	0	- 2.1
Local	22.8	22.8	22.9	0	- 0.1

BATON ROUGE AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '88*	July '88**	August '87**	August '88*	July '88**	August '87**	August '88*	July '88**	August '87**
All MANUFACTURING (1)	\$548.25	\$568.96	\$509.50	42.5	43.3	42.6	\$12.90	\$13.14	\$11.96
Petro-Chemicals	721.60	738.30	673.06	45.7	45.8	47.1	15.79	16.12	14.29

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 12,200 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

BATON ROUGE AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Nonagricultural employment in the Baton Rouge LMA, at 211,200 during August, was up 300 from the July revised estimate and up 1,600 over the comparable period a year ago.

Employment in manufacturing, at 18,700, was down 100 during the current period and up 300 over the year-ago estimate. Durable goods were unchanged during the current period. Nondurable goods employment was down due to less business in miscellaneous petroleum and coal products.

Total nonmanufacturing was up 400 during August and up 1,300 over the year-ago estimate. Construction was up due to more business in heavy construction, except highway and street construction, in painting, paper hanging, and decorating, and in electrical work. Transportation and public utilities rose due to increased activity in transportation on rivers and canals. Finance, insurance, and real estate were up due to more business in insurance services. Services employment dropped due to seasonal declines in amusement and recreational services, except motion pictures, and in educational services. Mining, wholesale and retail trade, and government were unchanged during the current period.

Average weekly earnings of the Baton Rouge LMA's 12,200 production workers in all manufacturing was \$548.25, down \$15.71 from the revised July average. Average weekly hours, at 42.5, were down 0.8 hours. Average hourly earnings, at \$12.90, were down \$0.24 per hour. Less overtime worked at premium pay contributed to these changes.

Total employment of the Baton Rouge LMA's residents was 239,000 during August, down 400 from the revised July estimate and up 2,400 from the year-ago total. Unemployment, at 23,900, was down 900 during the current period and down 1,500 from August of last year. The local unemployment rate for August was 9.1 percent, down from the revised 9.4 percent for July and down from 9.7 percent for August of last year. Baton Rouge's civilian labor force totaled 262,900 during August, down 1,300 from the prior month and up 900 over the total for last August.

The Baton Rouge Job Service Office served 3,921 individuals with new or renewal applications and placed 1,994 applicants in jobs during August 1988.

The consumer price index for July, 1988 for all urban consumers was 118.5 and for all urban wage and clerical workers 117.2 using base period 1982, 1983, 1984 = 100.

Seasonal changes in education are expected to increase employment. Unemployment should decline somewhat as unemployed summer job seekers withdraw from the labor force.

HOUMA - THIBODAUX AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change From July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	53.0	53.5	52.1	- 0.5	+ 0.9
MANUFACTURING	4.3	4.4	4.3	- 0.1	0
Durable Goods	3.0	3.0	2.6	0	+ 0.4
Nondurable Goods	1.3	1.4	1.7	- 0.1	- 0.4
MINING	6.1	6.2	5.8	- 0.1	+ 0.3
CONSTRUCTION	1.8	1.8	1.5	0	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.3	6.3	5.5	0	+ 0.8
Water Transportation	4.0	4.0	3.2	0	+ 0.8
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.5	13.6	13.9	- 0.1	- 0.4
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.9	2.9	0	0
Retail Trade	10.6	10.7	11.0	- 0.1	- 0.4
Eating & Drinking Places	3.3	3.4	3.2	- 0.1	+ 0.1
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.2	2.2	2.4	0	- 0.2
SERVICES	9.0	9.1	8.6	- 0.1	+ 0.4
GOVERNMENT	9.8	9.9	10.1	- 0.1	- 0.3
Federal	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
State and Local	9.3	9.4	9.6	- 0.1	- 0.3
State	2.2	2.2	2.3	0	- 0.1
Local	7.1	7.2	7.3	- 0.1	- 0.2

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Houma-Thibodaux LMA decreased to 53,000, a level 500 below July. Several industry divisions exhibited small changes. Since August 1987, total employment showed a gain of 900.

Manufacturing totaled 4,300 in August, showing a decrease of 100 since July. Nondurable goods eased down because of seasonal factors affecting seafood processing. Durable goods displayed no significant change.

Mining exhibited a small decrease in oil and gas field services. Construction held steady. Transportation and public utilities showed no significant change. Less favorably, retail trade was lowered by downward adjustments in employment by eating and drinking places. Finance, insurance, and real estate remained at the same level. Services experienced a small downturn, spread through several segments. Local government reflected a summer decrease in employment by the public schools.

Estimated unemployment in August moved down to 6,500, a level 500 below July. A reduction in the number of entrants and re-entrants into the labor force was partly responsible. Unemployment presently comprises 9.5 percent of the labor force, compared to 10.1 percent in July and 13.9 percent in August of last year. Recipients of regular unemployment insurance benefits totaled 931.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to display a seasonal increase. Both state and local educational services will pull back up from the summer low as the autumn school term begins. Unemployment will probably decrease as many entrants and re-entrants withdraw from the labor force to return to school.

LAFAYETTE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change From	
				July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	83.4	84.1	81.2	- 0.7	+ 2.2
MANUFACTURING	5.9	6.1	5.8	- 0.2	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	+ 0.1
Nondurable Goods	4.4	4.6	4.4	- 0.2	0
Food & Kindred Products	1.4	1.4	1.5	0	- 0.1
MINING	10.5	10.6	10.5	- 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	2.9	3.0	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	6.1	6.1	5.7	0	+ 0.4
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	23.2	23.4	21.7	- 0.2	+ 1.5
Wholesale Trade	5.4	5.4	5.0	0	+ 0.4
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	3.2	3.2	2.9	0	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	17.8	18.0	16.7	- 0.2	+ 1.1
General Merchandise	2.8	2.8	2.6	0	+ 0.2
Food Stores	2.8	2.9	2.8	- 0.1	0
Auto. Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	+ 0.2
Other Retail Trade	10.4	10.5	9.7	- 0.1	+ 0.7
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	3.7	3.6	3.8	+ 0.1	- 0.1
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.2	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	18.8	18.7	18.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.7
GOVERNMENT	12.3	12.6	12.2	- 0.3	+ 0.1
Federal	0.8	0.8	0.9	0	- 0.1
State and Local	11.5	11.8	11.3	- 0.3	+ 0.2
State	4.2	4.2	4.0	0	+ 0.2
Local	7.3	7.6	7.3	- 0.3	0

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lafayette labor market area was estimated at 83,400, a decrease of 700 workers from July's revised estimate. The decrease was scattered across several industries.

Manufacturing showed a decrease of 200 over last month's estimate, centered in nondurable goods, but was 100 higher than last year. Mining and construction were down by 100 over last month, with construction showing a decrease of 500 since August 1987. Transportation and public utilities showed no change. Losses in food stores and miscellaneous retail stores caused a drop of 200 in the wholesale and retail trade sector. Finance, insurance, and real estate showed an increase of 100. Services also rose by 100. These increases were partially due to seasonal factors. Government showed a drop of 300, reflecting the end of summer youth employment programs in local government.

Total employment should increase slightly over the next 30 days due to seasonal hiring in trade. The unemployment rate should remain stable.

LAKE CHARLES AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change From	
				July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	58.8	59.6	58.0	- 0.8	+ 0.8
MANUFACTURING	11.0	11.1	11.0	- 0.1	0
Durable Goods	2.5	2.6	2.6	- 0.1	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Prod.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	2.3	2.4	2.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Nondurable Goods	8.5	8.5	8.4	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.2	0.2	0.3	0	- 0.1
Chemical & Pet. Products	7.7	7.7	7.6	0	+ 0.1
Other Nondurable Goods	0.6	0.6	0.5	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.9	1.0	0.9	- 0.1	0
CONSTRUCTION	4.2	4.2	3.9	0	+ 0.3
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	3.9	4.0	3.9	- 0.1	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	14.1	14.1	14.4	0	- 0.3
Wholesale Trade	2.8	2.8	2.8	0	0
Retail Trade	11.3	11.3	11.6	0	- 0.3
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.1	2.0	2.1	+ 0.1	0
Auto Dlrs. & Serv. Sta.	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Eating & Drinking Places	3.7	3.7	4.0	0	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	2.9	2.9	2.7	0	+ 0.2
Banking	1.1	1.1	1.0	0	+ 0.1
SERVICES	11.5	11.6	11.3	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Personal Services	0.4	0.5	0.5	- 0.1	- 0.1
GOVERNMENT	10.3	10.7	9.9	- 0.4	+ 0.4
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	9.7	10.1	9.3	- 0.4	+ 0.4
State	3.3	3.3	3.6	0	- 0.3
Local	6.4	6.8	5.7	- 0.4	+ 0.7

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the Lake Charles labor market area was estimated at 58,800 for August 1988, a decrease of 800 over the previous month. This estimate shows an increase of 800 since August of last year.

Manufacturing showed a decrease of 100 since last month. Mining showed a loss of 100 workers since July but was unchanged from last year's estimate. Both the transportation and public utilities and the services sectors showed losses of 100. Local government showed a decrease of 400 due to the end of the summer youth employment programs, causing the decline in total government employment.

Other sectors showed no change.

Total employment is expected to increase over the next month due to seasonal hiring. The unemployment rate should remain fairly constant.

MONROE AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change From	
				July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	52.7	53.6	54.0	- 0.9	- 1.3
MANUFACTURING	7.1	6.8	7.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.1
Durable Goods	2.1	1.8	2.1	+ 0.3	0
Lumber & Wood Products	0.2	0.2	0.2	0	0
Other Durable Goods	1.9	1.6	1.9	+ 0.3	0
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.0	4.9	0	+ 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.7	0.7	0.7	0	0
Chemical & Allied Products	0.5	0.5	0.5	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	3.8	3.8	3.7	0	+ 0.1
MINING	0.4	0.4	0.3	0	+ 0.1
CONSTRUCTION	2.7	2.7	2.8	0	- 0.1
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.6	2.7	2.9	- 0.1	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	13.9	14.0	14.5	- 0.1	- 0.6
Wholesale Trade	3.9	3.8	3.8	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Retail Trade	10.0	10.2	10.7	- 0.2	- 0.7
Gen. Mdse., App. & Acc.	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	- 0.1
Auto Dealers & Serv. Sta.	1.0	1.0	1.2	0	- 0.2
Eating & Drinking Places	3.2	3.2	3.5	0	- 0.3
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	4.5	4.5	4.7	0	- 0.2
Banking	1.0	1.0	1.1	0	- 0.1
SERVICES	11.7	11.7	11.7	0	0-
Hotels & Other Lodg. Places	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Personal Services	0.5	0.5	0.6	0	- 0.1
Health Services	5.3	5.3	5.1	0	+ 0.2
GOVERNMENT	9.8	10.8	10.1	- 1.0	- 0.3
Federal	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
State and Local	9.2	10.2	9.5	- 1.0	- 0.3
State	3.9	4.0	3.9	- 0.1	0
Local	5.3	6.2	5.6	- 0.9	- 0.3

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total employment in the Monroe LMA declined by 900 to an estimated 52,700 during mid-August. The primary loss occurred in government and reflects the end of special summer programs for youths.

Manufacturing rose by 300, to an estimated 7,100, as several firms recalled workers on temporary lay-off. The gain was in durable goods. Wholesale and retail trade declined by 100 to an estimated 13,900. Transportation and public utilities experienced a minimal loss of 100. Government declined by 1,000 reflecting primarily the end of the special summer programs for youths. All other segments were unchanged over the month.

Employment is expected to rise slightly as educational facilities begin the fall semester. Unemployment will remain high.

NEW ORLEANS AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change From July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	519.0	517.3	511.5	+ 1.7	+ 7.5
MANUFACTURING	43.3	43.5	41.6	- 0.2	+ 1.7
Durable Goods	22.3	22.4	20.1	- 0.1	+ 2.2
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	1.3	1.3	1.2	0	+ 0.1
Fabricated Metal Products	2.2	2.3	2.2	- 0.1	0
Machinery	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	+ 0.1
Transportation Equipment	13.7	13.7	11.8	0	+ 1.9
Ship & Boatbuilding & Repairing	10.0	10.0	8.1	0	+ 1.9
Other Durable Goods	2.0	2.0	1.8	0	+ 0.2
Nondurable Goods	21.0	21.1	21.5	- 0.1	- 0.5
Food & Kindred Products	6.0	6.0	6.1	0	- 0.1
Apparel & Other Textile Products	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	- 0.1
Paper & Allied Products	0.7	0.7	0.8	0	- 0.1
Printing & Publishing	3.7	3.8	3.8	- 0.1	- 0.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	4.0	4.0	3.9	0	+ 0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	4.5	4.5	4.7	0	- 0.2
Other Nondurable Goods	0.4	0.4	0.4	0	0
MINING	15.4	15.2	14.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
Oil & Gas Extraction	14.5	14.3	13.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
CONSTRUCTION	22.5	22.6	21.9	- 0.1	+ 0.6
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	44.2	43.9	43.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.9
Railroad Transportation	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
Water Transportation	13.3	13.0	12.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	133.5	132.8	134.8	+ 0.7	- 1.3
Wholesale Trade	31.9	32.0	31.6	- 0.1	+ 0.3
Wholesale Trade-Durable Goods	18.2	18.2	18.1	0	+ 0.1
Wholesale Trade-Nondurable Goods	13.7	13.8	13.5	- 0.1	+ 0.2
Retail Trade	101.6	100.8	103.2	+ 0.8	- 1.6
General Merchandise	14.2	13.9	13.9	+ 0.3	+ 0.3
Food Stores	18.1	17.9	18.7	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Eating & Drinking Places	35.0	34.6	35.4	+ 0.4	- 0.4
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	33.6	33.7	34.4	- 0.1	- 0.8
Banking	7.2	7.3	7.2	- 0.1	0
SERVICES	137.9	137.0	131.3	+ 0.9	+ 6.6
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	13.5	13.1	12.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.0
Health Services	37.3	37.1	36.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.0
GOVERNMENT	88.6	88.6	89.5	0	- 0.9
Federal	15.9	15.9	16.1	0	- 0.2
State and Local	72.7	72.7	73.4	0	- 0.7
State	18.4	18.3	18.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.1
Local	54.3	54.4	55.1	- 0.1	- 0.8

NEW ORLEANS AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '88*	July '88**	August '87**	August '88*	July '88**	August '87**	August '88*	July '88**	August '87**
All MANUFACTURING	\$455.52	\$438.13	\$429.05	43.3	41.1	40.4	\$10.52	\$10.66	\$10.62
Durable Goods	431.12	384.31	386.91	44.4	40.2	39.4	9.71	9.56	9.82
Stone, Clay, & Glass Pdts.	221.00	233.96	232.70	25.0	27.3	25.6	8.84	8.57	9.09
Fabricated Metal Products	438.80	490.50	423.26	45.9	45.0	41.7	9.56	10.90	10.15
Ship & Boatbuilding and Repairing	452.67	358.18	373.26	47.8	40.2	38.8	9.47	8.91	9.62
Nondurable Goods	482.77	498.46	466.69	42.2	42.1	41.3	11.44	11.84	11.30
Food & Kindred Products	317.51	330.65	314.87	38.3	38.9	37.8	8.29	8.50	8.33
Apparel & Other Textile Pdts.	173.73	189.35	167.46	33.8	35.0	32.9	5.14	5.41	5.09
Paper & Allied Products	415.70	396.49	385.76	47.4	44.3	44.7	8.77	8.95	8.63
Printing & Publishing	403.80	388.08	382.22	41.5	39.2	41.5	9.73	9.90	9.21
Chemicals & Allied Pdts.	729.33	759.00	726.38	47.7	46.0	44.7	15.29	16.50	16.25

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 29,700 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

NEW ORLEANS AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

Total nonagricultural employment in the New Orleans IMA in August increased to 519,000, a level 1,700 above July. The largest gains were in the services and retail trade segments. Over the year, nonagricultural employment gained 7,500 workers, with increases in most industry divisions.

Manufacturing employment eased down to 43,300, a level 200 below July. The small decrease was evenly spread between durable goods and nondurable goods. Printing and publishing exhibited a small seasonal decrease. Fabricated metal products displayed a minor downturn because of less business. All other industries in manufacturing held steady.

Mining moved up, with gains primarily in the oil and gas extraction segment. Construction made slight downward adjustments. Transportation and public utilities showed increases mostly attributed to the rise in local port activity. Trade showed significant gains, with large increases in retail trade offset slightly by smaller decreases in wholesale trade. Finance, insurance and real estate employment was reduced. Services was boosted by considerable gains in private educational services and in hotel/motel services. Government employment held steady.

Production workers in the area earned an average \$455.52 per week in August, up \$17.39 from last month's average. Average weekly hours were 43.3, up two hours and twelve minutes from the previous month. Average hourly earnings were \$10.52, down \$0.14 from the previous month. Compared to one year ago, weekly earnings are down \$0.10 in manufacturing.

Estimated unemployment in August decreased to 52,900, a level 1,800 below July. The decrease in the labor force was mostly responsible. Joblessness presently comprises 8.8 percent of the labor force, compared with 9.0 percent in July and 9.7 percent in August of last year. The August rate was lower than the state rate of 10.0 percent. Recipients of regular unemployment benefits totaled 9,422.

Nonagricultural employment in the coming months is expected to show an overall seasonal increase. Public and private educational services will resume regular fall activity. Services will be favored by fall sports and cultural events. Retail trade will benefit from back-to-school shopping. Unemployment is expected to show a small decrease.

SHREVEPORT AREA
Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment
(In Thousands by Industry)

	August 1988*	July 1988**	August 1987**	Net Change From	
				July 1988	August 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	131.6	131.6	131.0	0	+ 0.6
MANUFACTURING	17.3	17.4	17.7	- 0.1	- 0.4
Durable Goods	12.5	12.6	12.8	- 0.1	- 0.3
Lumber and Wood Products	0.4	0.4	0.5	0	- 0.1
Metals and Machinery	7.4	7.4	7.3	0	+ 0.1
Primary and Fabricated Metals	1.6	1.6	1.4	0	+ 0.2
Machinery, Inc. Electrical	5.8	5.8	5.9	0	- 0.1
Other Durable Goods	4.7	4.8	5.0	- 0.1	- 0.3
Nondurable Good	4.8	4.8	4.9	0	- 0.1
Food & Kindred Products	0.6	0.6	0.6	0	0
Printing & Publishing	1.2	1.2	1.4	0	- 0.2
Petroleum & Coal Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	2.2	2.2	2.1	0	+ 0.1
MINING	2.9	3.0	3.4	- 0.1	- 0.5
CONSTRUCTION	7.9	7.7	7.4	+ 0.2	+ 0.5
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	8.1	8.0	8.4	+ 0.1	- 0.3
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	31.7	32.0	32.6	- 0.3	- 0.9
Wholesale Trade	7.6	7.6	8.0	0	- 0.4
Retail Trade	24.1	24.4	24.6	- 0.3	- 0.5
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	7.1	7.2	7.5	- 0.1	- 0.4
SERVICES	33.2	33.1	32.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
GOVERNMENT	23.4	23.2	21.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.7
Federal	4.7	4.7	4.7	0	0
State and Local	18.7	18.5	17.0	+ 0.2	+ 1.7
State	5.9	5.9	5.7	0	+ 0.2
Local	12.8	12.6	11.3	+ 0.2	+ 1.5

SHREVEPORT AREA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	August '88*	July '88**	August, '87**	August '88*	July '88**	August '87**	August '88*	July '88**	August '87**
All MANUFACTURING	\$494.25	\$482.98	\$458.54	42.1	41.6	39.7	\$11.74	\$11.61	\$11.55
Lumber and Wood Products	295.68	255.82	266.01	38.5	37.4	37.1	7.68	6.84	7.17
Metals and Machinery	528.54	500.69	487.94	46.0	43.5	40.9	11.49	11.51	11.93
Food and Kindred Products	349.32	285.19	255.25	37.4	40.8	35.5	9.34	6.99	7.19
Printing and Publishing	335.59	335.12	322.92	35.4	34.8	34.5	9.48	9.63	9.36
Petroleum and Coal Products	558.93	615.23	506.04	46.5	51.7	42.1	12.02	11.90	12.02

Data in the average earnings table are for approximately 13,100 production workers and are computed on a "gross" basis and reflect overtime, late shift work and incentive rates.

SHREVEPORT AREA

EMPLOYMENT AND PAYROLL TRENDS

The nonagricultural wage and salary employment estimate for the Shreveport LMA remained unchanged from the revised July estimate of 131,600. The August 1987 estimate was 131,000.

Manufacturing employment, estimated at 17,300, was down from the revised July estimate of 17,400 and remains below the year-ago figure of 17,700.

The nonmanufacturing employment estimate of 114,300 shows a slight increase over the revised July figure. Small gains in construction, transportation, services and government were mostly eliminated by losses in mining, retail trade and finance, insurance and real estate.

This area had 13,100 production workers in manufacturing with average weekly earnings of \$494.25, up \$11.27 from July and \$46.98 more than August 1987. The average weekly hours increased to 42.1, up from 41.6 in July and 39.7 one year ago. Average hourly earnings increased to \$11.74, up slightly from \$11.61 in July and \$11.55 in August 1987.

The civilian labor force for the Shreveport labor market area, estimated at 164,600, includes 148,800 employed and 15,800 unemployed. The unemployment rate for August was 9.6 percent.

Employment changes in this area during the next month will be seasonal. The beginning of the 1988-89 school year will bring educational services payrolls back to a normal level. Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment will increase while the unemployment total will remain near the present estimate.

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF AUGUST 1988

Industry	LOUISIANA			ALEXANDRIA AREA			BATON ROUGE AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	1,883	1,567	316	48	45	3	25	14	11
Contractual Construction (15-17)	8,615	5,992	2,623	194	148	46	1,755	1,313	442
Manufacturing (20-29)	4,861	2,467	2,394	120	53	67	217	123	94
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	2,062	1,123	939	37	22	15	245	123	122
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	1,306	918	388	31	24	7	169	108	61
Retail Trade (52-59)	6,211	3,503	2,708	171	122	49	711	351	360
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	1,477	1,170	307	30	25	5	264	199	65
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	9,866	5,189	4,677	431	217	214	1,325	673	652
Public Administration (91-97)	1,973	977	996	82	51	31	301	152	149
All Others	178	105	73	0	0	0	48	26	22
Totals	38,432	23,011	15,421	1,144	707	437	5,060	3,082	1,978
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	5,658	4,097	1,561	237	163	74	836	586	250
Clerical and Sales	8,772	6,139	2,633	271	213	58	1,144	731	413
Services Occupations	5,168	1,542	3,626	194	48	146	631	167	464
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	319	126	193	12	6	6	17	6	11
Processing Occupations	794	395	399	4	0	4	66	38	28
Machine Trades	1,770	1,149	621	53	44	9	219	156	63
Benchmark Occupations	1,257	620	637	36	11	25	64	41	23
Structural Work Occupations	8,912	5,835	3,077	211	152	59	1,600	1,099	501
Miscellaneous Occupations	5,782	3,108	2,674	126	70	56	483	258	225
Totals	38,432	23,011	15,421	1,144	707	437	5,060	3,082	1,978

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF AUGUST 1988

Industry	HOUMA-THIBODAUX AREA				LAFAYETTE AREA				LAKE CHARLES AREA			
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE		TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE		TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	
Mining (10-14)	130	101	29		269	217	52		72	71	1	
Contractual Construction (15-17)	214	177	37		170	115	55		547	463	84	
Manufacturing (20-29)	216	173	43		193	114	79		77	54	23	
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	80	62	18		56	41	15		143	83	60	
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	64	61	3		74	64	10		36	27	9	
Retail Trade (52-59)	185	135	50		349	213	136		258	159	99	
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	31	29	2		81	71	10		30	29	1	
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	214	159	55		368	204	164		312	208	104	
Public Administration (91-97)	57	39	18		66	34	32		36	25	11	
All Others	2	1	1		4	3	1		1	0	1	
Totals	1,193	937	256		1,630	1,076	554		1,512	1,119	393	
<u>Occupations</u>												
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	145	134	11		287	230	57		169	140	29	
Clerical and Sales	200	183	17		471	388	83		317	246	71	
Services Occupations	152	74	78		274	83	191		156	56	100	
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	14	9	5		13	9	4		3	3	0	
Processing Occupations	122	93	29		74	33	41		31	21	10	
Machine Trades	48	39	9		51	38	13		44	37	7	
Benchwork Occupations	10	7	3		40	18	22		21	15	6	
Structural Work Occupations	312	253	59		210	136	74		489	418	71	
Miscellaneous Occupations	190	145	45		210	141	69		282	183	99	
Totals	1,193	937	256		1,630	1,076	554		1,512	1,119	393	

INSURED UNEMPLOYED BY INDUSTRY AND OCCUPATION GROUP FOR THE WEEK INCLUDING THE 19th OF AUGUST 1988

Industry	MONROE AREA			NEW ORLEANS AREA			SHREVEPORT AREA		
	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE	TOTAL	WHITE	NON-WHITE
Mining (10-14)	27	26	1	119	72	47	106	103	3
Contractual Construction (15-17)	245	202	43	1,913	1,169	744	445	277	168
Manufacturing (20-29)	150	85	65	1,044	539	505	418	174	244
Trans., Comm., & Utilities (40-49)	23	13	10	904	395	509	112	54	58
Wholesale Trade (50-51)	23	19	4	427	277	150	153	109	44
Retail Trade (52-59)	328	220	108	2,056	997	1,059	567	286	281
Fin., Ins., & Real Estate (60-67)	46	41	5	575	418	157	160	123	37
Service & Miscellaneous (70-89 and 01-09)	351	196	155	3,326	1,649	1,677	798	392	406
Public Administration (91-97)	48	22	26	476	188	288	206	86	120
All Others	3	3	0	78	49	29	4	3	1
Totals	1,244	827	417	10,918	5,753	5,165	2,969	1,607	1,362
Occupations									
Professional, Tech., & Managerial	224	176	48	1,974	1,370	604	417	319	98
Clerical and Sales	381	282	99	2,971	1,882	1,089	781	540	241
Services Occupations	129	27	102	1,696	422	1,274	497	107	390
Agri., Fishery, Forestry & Related Occ.	2	2	0	79	29	50	23	5	18
Processing Occupations	10	6	4	132	44	88	35	11	24
Machine Trades	116	76	40	383	243	140	151	78	73
Benchwork Occupations	27	18	9	226	78	148	149	68	81
Structural Work Occupations	198	153	45	1,956	1,128	828	480	269	211
Miscellaneous Occupations	157	87	70	1,501	557	944	436	210	226
Totals	1,244	827	417	10,918	5,753	5,165	2,969	1,607	1,362

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